



DOE secretary stresses energy security during Los Alamos visit

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Tours biology laboratory created in partnership with county, universities, LANL

LOS ALAMOS, N.M., Sept. 3, 2013—U.S. Secretary of Energy Ernest Moniz today during a visit to Los Alamos National Laboratory and the new biological laboratory built by the New Mexico Consortium (NMC) to explore alternative fuel sources from algae and other plants said that Los Alamos and all the DOE labs have a major role in addressing two key initiatives of the President.

“In view of the President's emphasis on nuclear security and climate change, the work at Los Alamos has never been more important,” Secretary Moniz said.

Moniz also addressed Los Alamos employees and received briefings on the Laboratory's nuclear weapons and intelligence work. It was the first visit by an Energy secretary to Los Alamos since 2009.

Moniz was accompanied by Rep. Ben Ray Luján and New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology President Daniel Lopez.

The NMC is a non-profit formed by the three New Mexico research universities to engage universities and industry in scientific research in the nation's interest and to increase the role of Los Alamos National Laboratory (LANL) in science, education and economic development in the state.

The Biological Laboratory was built by the NMC in partnership with the County of Los Alamos, Los Alamos National Bank and Los Alamos National Laboratory. The County of Los Alamos played a critical role in the project, providing a \$2.6 million toward construction of the building.

The NMC Biological Laboratory supports the LANL/NMC initiative in sustainable global energy and food security. This initiative pursues joint research on higher yielding biofuel production systems and more nutritious and higher yielding crops.

“Los Alamos National Laboratory has been forward thinking and innovative in pursuing new mechanisms to engage with universities and industry through the NMC. I am very excited about the future of this partnership.” said NMC Executive Director Katharine Chartrand.

About the [New Mexico Consortium](#)

The New Mexico Consortium (NMC) is a non-profit corporation formed by the University of New Mexico, New Mexico State University, and New Mexico Tech to advance scientific research, education and technology transfer in the state of New Mexico. NMC pursues joint initiatives with LANL in [Advanced Computing](#), [Plant Biology](#), [Biomedical Engineering](#) and [Modeling and Analysis](#). Through the NMC, the universities and LANL have developed new models to advance scientific discovery in the nation's interest and increase the impact of scientific research on the local and national economy.

Los Alamos National Laboratory

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